

of military surgery, it is an excellent digest of much that is valuable, and will be found exceedingly useful by medical officers of the public services.

THE SURGEON'S POCKET-BOOK. An essay on the best treatment of wounded in war; specially adapted for the public medical services. By Surgeon-Major J. H. PORTER, Late Assistant Professor of Military Surgery, Army Medical School, Netley. Third edition, revised and edited by Brigade-Surgeon C. H. Y. GODWIN, Assistant Professor of Military Surgery, Army Medical School, Netley, 12 mo. pp. xx, 257. Philadelphia, P. Blakiston, Son & Co., 1887.

It is impossible for the military surgeon to carry with him into the field ordinary works of reference upon military surgery and hygiene, and consequently a suitable *aide.memoire* is a strongly felt necessity. Such a work should not attempt to comprehend the entire domain of military medicine, but it should consist of a concise presentation of the action demanded by the emergencies of field service. It should cover briefly the chief points in the organization of the field sanitary corps, the transportation of the wounded and the construction of camps and field hospitals, in addition to the treatment of wounds and camp diseases. The text must be carefully pruned of all unnecessary verbiage and as many ideas can be presented more clearly in pictorial form, illustrations should be profusely employed. And it is of prime importance that the book should be small in size, so as to be conveniently carried in the medical officer's pocket.

The essay of Surgeon-Major Porter, first issued in 1875, more fully met the demand than any work that had hitherto appeared, and a revision of the second edition by the author and of the third edition by Brigade-Surgeon Godwin, has vastly improved it. The Introductory General Remarks are devoted mainly to the subject of the transportation of the wounded, and comprise decidedly the best presentation of conveyance by human bearers that we have seen, the portion relating to extemporized litters being particularly complete, although it would be greatly improved by the addition of methods of carrying the wounded without assisting apparatus. Chapters on fractures and splints faithfully portray the best methods of dealing with these accidents, while the subject of wounds is introduced by an excellent epitome of the applications of antiseptic principles to this part of the military surgeon's work; after which wounds of various organs are considered in detail. Amputations are discussed very much after the usual fashion and the procedures illustrated by the cuts commonly used

for that purpose. It would have added greatly to the utility of the book had a series of anatomical sections suitably colored to show the location of the principal vessels at the chief points for amputation, been introduced here. The same may be said of the section upon the ligation of arteries; it is particularly in connection with these operations that the surgeon needs something to recall the surrounding anatomical details, a need never so deeply felt as in the field and at a distance from his books. The lack of a series of illustrations indicating the location of the proper incisions and the anatomical relations is a weakness that admits of an easy remedy; if the latter were shown in colors, as has been done in a number of recent works upon anatomy and surgery, the value of the work for rapid reference would be vastly enhanced.

After good sections upon tetanus, gangrene, osteo-myelitis and scurvy, he presents some brief notes upon foot-soreness, the treatment of the drowned by Marshall Hall's and Sylvester's methods, the selection of cooking places and the construction of latrines, together with some practical remarks on water and rations. In appendices are contained a formulary, a list of antiseptics contained in the various supply cases of the British army, a copy of the recent order to the German army, containing instructions for the preparation and application of sublimate bandages, etc., with some suggestions as to food supply. By using thin paper and small type, the bulk of the book has been greatly reduced, and, while severe criticism would remark upon a number of points susceptible of improvement, taken as a whole the book is thoroughly well adapted to the wants not only of the military surgeon but to the isolated practitioner, whose resources are often taxed at points remote from libraries or other professional assistance.

. JAMES E. PILCHER.

MANUEL DE TRACHEOTOMIE. Par le Dr. PAUL RENAULT.

MANUAL OF TRACHEOTOMY. By Dr. PAUL RENAULT.

This excellent little book, published after the author's death, deals only with tracheotomy for croup. The object is not to introduce any new method of procedure, but to describe clearly and methodically the indications for the operative interference, the operation itself and the precautions to be afterwards adopted. A chapter is added on the various complications that may occur. The value of the work consists in its being the result of the author's own observation and practical